

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STR-07 COME-00 LAB-04
AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-15 /126 W

-----002555 030330Z /70

R 022156Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7279
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA ALSO FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, GATT, MTN
SUBJECT: CANADIAN FOOTWEAR RESTRICTIONS

REF: STATE 76604

1. FOOTWEAR QUOTA REVIEW COMMITTEE HAS BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS BY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE (ITC) HORNER "TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE WITH APPLICATIONS FOR IMPORTS OF SPECIFIC TYPES OF FOOTWEAR" ACCORDING TO MAY 2 TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL. HOWEVER, ITC OFFICIAL IN OFFICE OF SPECIAL IMPORT POLICY WOULD NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY REPORT BUT TOLD EMBOFF THAT NO "OFFICIAL" INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN ISSUED. HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT "DEFINITIONS" WERE BEING LOOKED AT AND THERE WAS DISTINCT POSSIBILITY CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES MIGHT BE EXEMPT FROM QUOTA.

2. GLOBE AND MAIL ARTICLE MENTIONS "ENGLISH RIDING BOOTS, CYCLING FOOTWEAR, HIKING BOOTS WITH FOB VALUE OF DOLLARS
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50 AND UP, ORTHOPAEDIC FOOTWEAR AND SPECIALITY ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR WITH SPIKES OR STUDS" AS FOOTWEAR FOR WHICH MORE FLEXIBLE APPROACH WILL BE TAKEN.

3. CONGEN TORONTO HAS LEARNED FROM CANADIAN IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION (CIA) OFFICIAL THAT FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH ITC, IT EXPECTS CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES TO BE REMOVED FROM

QUOTA AND PLACED UNDER MONITORING PROGRAM. PRECISE
DEFINITION OF SHOES, SUCH AS ATHLETIC AND ORTHOPAEDIC
SHOES, IS APPARENTLY BEING WORKED OUT AND SHOULD BE
RELEASED IN "NEXT FEW DAYS" ACCORDING TO CIA OFFICIAL.

4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS SOME CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN
TO U.S. REQUESTS AT PREVIOUS FOOTWEAR CONSULTATIONS (E.G.,
GOLF SHOES, NURSES SHOES AND POSSIBLY COWBOY BOOTS)
ALTHOUGH WE MAY NOT KNOW PRECISELY WHAT GOC HAS IN MIND
BEFORE OUR FOOTWEAR CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 11.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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